

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 EUR-12 PPT-01 VO-03 L-02 MMS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 627

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CF

SUBJ: US RELATIONS WITH CONGO BRAZZAVILLE

REF: (A) KINSHASA 10256, (B) STATE 273392

1. CONSULAR OFFICER SPOKE BY RADIO WITH GERMAN AMBASSADOR FISCHER IN BRAZZAVILLE AND IDENTIFIED ONLY ONE PASSPORT CASE IN LAST YEAR THAT WAS "EMBARRASSING". CASE INVOLVED MRS. RUBY MAY DYKES ADENIYI-JONES, WIFE OF THE DIRECTOR OF WHO'S HEALTH SERVICE IN BRAZZAVILLE. HER PASSPORT WAS SENT TO THE EMBASSY WITH HER APPLICATION FOR NEW PASSPORT. BOTH PASSPORT AND APPLICATION WERE MISPLACED BUT LATER FOUND ALTHOUGH NOT BEFORE GOING THROUGH PROCEDURE TO ISSUE REPLACEMENT PASSPORT. OTHER PASSPORT CASES ORIGINALLY CITED IN HINTON-FISCHER CONVERSATION APPARENTLY OLDER SINCE NO ONE HERE NOW RECALLS INCIDENTS.

2. AMBASSADOR FISCHER ALSO RECOUNTED NIV CASE OF HIGH RANKING CONGOLESE WHOSE VISA TOOK SO LONG TO PROCESS THAT HE WAS OBLIGED TO DEPART FOR UN WITHOUT IT. ON REFLECTION AMBASSADOR SAID APPLICATION MAY HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED OVER WEEKEND.

3. TRANSFER AND CONVERSION OF FOREIGN CURRENCY IS DIFFICULT AND
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TIME CONSUMING. WONDER IF FRG EMBASSY CAN COLLECT CONSULAR FEES

WITH ACCOUNTING TO DEPARTMENT THROUGH BONN.

4. DELAYS ARE OFTEN ENCOUNTERED IN TRYING TO CROSS FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER AND ONLY CONGOLESE AND ZAIROIS NATIONALS CAN MORE OR LESS CROSS FREELY. IN EFFORT TO MAKE BEST OF DIFFICULT SITUATION, CONSULAR OFFICER WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING NON OFFICE HOURS FOR URGENT CASES. CONSULAR SECTION WILL PERIODICALLY SEND LOCAL EMPLOYEE TO BRAZZAVILLE AND WILL MORE FULLY UTILIZE RADIO LINK BETWEEN FRG EMBASSIES.

5. AMBASSADOR FISCHER'S MAJOR CONCERN SEEMS TO BE NOT KNOWING THE NUMBER AND LOCATION FOR AMERICANS HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR. IF THE DEPARTMENT PERCEIVES NO OBJECTION WILL SUGGEST LOW KEY NEWSPAPER NOTICES REMINDING AMERICANS THAT FRG IS PROTECTING POWER AND THAT AMCITS SHOULD KEEP THEIR REGISTRATION CURRENT.

6. WHILE THESE PROBLEMS ARE AN ADDITIONAL ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF REOPENING EMBASSY THEY ARE NOT IN THEMSELVES SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY A FULL TIME U.S. INTERESTS SECTION IN THE FRG EMBASSY.
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